We claim:

1. A process for producing tablets by melt extrusion, in which an extrudable mixture is heated and extruded in the form of a continuous product strip, the still deformable product strip is compressed to a continuous tablet belt, the individual tablets in the belt being connected together by product webs, the tablet belt is allowed to cool, and the tablets are finally singulated and deflashed, wherein firstly the tablets are mechanically singulated in a continuous process, and then the singulated tablets are transported further and subsequently deflashed.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a force with a component perpendicular to the plane of the tablet belt is allowed to act on the tablet belt for singulation of the tablets.

3. A process as claimed in either of claims 1 or 2, wherein a force with a component parallel to the plane of the tablet belt is allowed to act on the tablet belt for singulation of the tablets.

4. A process as claimed in either of claims 2 or 3, wherein the perpendicular force component is generated by diverting the solidified tablet belt out of its transport plane.

5. A process as claimed in either of claims 3 or 4, wherein the parallel force component is generated by exerting a traction force on the solidified tablet belt.

6. An apparatus for producing tablets, in particular for carrying out the process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, having at least one extruder (10), having means (20), downstream of the extruder, for shaping a tablet belt (14), having first transport means (30), downstream of the shaping means (20), for the tablet belt (14) and having means (40, 50) for singulating and deflashing the tablets, wherein the means for singulating and deflashing the tablets comprise at least one singulating means (40), downstream of the first transport means (30), and at least one deflashing means (50), downstream of the singulating means and spatially separate therefrom.

7. An apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the singulating means (40) comprises at least one rotatable roller (41) for diverting the tablet belt (14) out of a transport plane (34) of the first transport means (30).

8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the singulating means (40) comprises two counter-rotating rollers (41, 42) which can be pressed against one another.

9. An apparatus as claimed in any of claims 6 to 8, wherein the singulating means (40) comprises at least one brush roller or embossed roller (41).

10. An apparatus as claimed in any of claims 6 to 9, wherein the first transport means (30) comprises means (70) for cooling the extruded tablet belt.

11. An apparatus as claimed in any of claims 6 to 10, wherein a second transport means (60) is provided between the singulating means (40) and the deflashing means (50) and comprises a shaking or vibrating unit (61).